

Appl. No.: 10/730,972
Amdt. dated 11/17/2005
Reply to Office action of 04/08/2005

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for attaching a cable to a structure, comprising:
an elongated rod having a varying cross-section in a longitudinal direction;
~~an~~ first and second elongate sleeves ~~sleeve~~ mounted on said elongated rod in a first position to facilitate insertion of a portion of said first sleeve in a hole defined by the structure and a portion of said second sleeve in said first sleeve, said first and second sleeves ~~sleeve~~ capable of being axially translated along said elongated rod to a second position to facilitate a positive engagement of the portion of said first sleeve within the hole and the portion of said second sleeve within said first sleeve; and
at least one attachment element carried by at least one of said first and second sleeves ~~sleeve~~, wherein said attachment element is adapted to be attached to the cable.
2. (Currently amended) ~~The An~~ An apparatus of Claim 1, for attaching a cable to a structure, comprising:
an elongated rod having a varying cross-section in a longitudinal direction;
an elongate sleeve mounted on said elongated rod in a first position to facilitate insertion of a portion of said sleeve in a hole defined by the structure, said sleeve capable of being axially translated along said elongated rod to a second position to facilitate a positive engagement of the portion of said sleeve within the hole; and
at least one attachment element carried by said sleeve, wherein said attachment element is adapted to be attached to the cable, and wherein said at least one attachment element comprises:
a ring defining an opening larger than said sleeve; and
a plurality of spokes extending inwardly from said ring to said sleeve.
3. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said elongated rod comprises:
a first portion of a first cross-sectional shape; and

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a second portion of a second cross-sectional shape larger than the first cross-sectional shape and disposed proximate to and displaced in the longitudinal direction from said first portion.

4. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 3, wherein said first portion is a first cylindrical portion and said second portion is a second cylindrical portion.

5. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ An apparatus of Claim 3 for attaching a cable to a structure, comprising:

an elongated rod having a varying cross-section in a longitudinal direction, wherein said elongated rod comprises:

a first portion of a first cross-sectional shape; and

second portion of a second cross-sectional shape larger than the first cross-sectional shape and disposed proximate to and displaced in the longitudinal direction from said first portion.

wherein said elongated rod comprises a plurality of pairs of first and second portions;

an elongate sleeve mounted on said elongated rod in a first position to facilitate insertion of a portion of said sleeve in a hole defined by the structure, said sleeve capable of being axially translated along said elongated rod to a second position to facilitate a positive engagement of the portion of said sleeve within the hole; and

at least one attachment element carried by said sleeve, wherein said attachment element is adapted to be attached to the cable.

6. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 5, wherein said elongated rod further comprises a circumferential groove between the pairs of first and second portions.

7. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 5, further comprising a plurality of said elongate sleeves mounted on said elongated rod, each sleeve associated with a respective pair of first and second portions such that said sleeve loosely surrounds the first portion and the second portion

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while in the first position and engages the second portion while in the second position, thereby radially expanding said sleeve.

8. (Currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein at least one of said first and second elongate sleeve sleeves comprises:

an expandable engagement member capable of radially expanding as said sleeve is moved from the first position to the second position; and

a sleeve-like an annular member connected to said expandable engagement member for carrying said attachment element.

9. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising at least one tie member capable of attaching the cable to said attachment element.

10. (Currently amended) An apparatus for attaching cables to a structure, comprising:

an elongated rod having a lengthwise cross-section of varying shape;

an first and second elongate sleeve sleeves mounted on said elongated rod in a first position and capable of being axially translated along said elongated rod to a second position such that said first sleeve expandedly engages within a hole defined by the structure and said second sleeve expandedly engages said first sleeve; and

a tie member capable of attaching the cable to at least one of said sleeve first and second sleeves.

11. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein said elongated rod comprises:

a first portion of a first cross-sectional shape; and

a second portion of a second cross-sectional shape larger than the first cross-sectional shape and disposed proximate to and displaced in the longitudinal direction from said first portion.

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12. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 11, wherein said first portion is a first cylindrical portion and said second portion is a second cylindrical portion.

13. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 11, wherein said elongated rod comprises a plurality of pairs of first and second portions.

14. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 13, wherein said elongated rod further comprises a circumferential groove between the pairs of first and second portions.

15. (Currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 13, ~~further comprising a plurality of said elongate sleeves mounted on said elongated rod, wherein~~ each sleeve is associated with a respective pair of first and second portions such that said sleeve loosely surrounds the first portion and second portion while in the first position and engages the second portion while in the second position, thereby radially expanding said sleeve.

16. (Currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein at least one of said first and second elongate sleeve sleeves comprises:

an expandable engagement member capable of radially expanding as said sleeve is moved from the first position to the second position; and

~~a sleeve-like~~ an annular member connected to said expandable engagement member for carrying said tie member.

17. (Currently amended) A method for attaching a cable to a structure, comprising:
providing an elongated rod having a varying cross-section in a longitudinal direction and an first and second elongate sleeve sleeves capable of being axially translated along the elongated rod;

inserting a portion of the first sleeve into a hole defined by the structure;

translating the first and second sleeves sleeve axially along the elongated rod to facilitate positive engagement of the first sleeve within the hole and positive engagement of the second sleeve with the first sleeve; and

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attaching at least one cable to at least one of the first and second sleeves sleeve.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising mounting the first and second sleeves sleeve upon the elongated rod in a first position prior to inserting the portion of the first sleeve into the hole defined by the structure.

19. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 17, wherein translating the first and second sleeves sleeve axially along the elongated rod comprises expanding the a portion of the first sleeve within the hole.

20. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 17, wherein attaching at least one cable to at least one of the first and second sleeves sleeve comprises encircling at least one cable and an attachment element carried by the sleeve with a tie member.

Claims 21-23. (Canceled).